

NEWS RELEASE

**Grain Stocks
January 12, 2004**

DECEMBER 1, 2003 GRAIN STOCKS REPORT

North Dakota

All wheat stored in all positions in North Dakota on December 1, 2003 totaled 230 million bushels, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is a 19 percent increase from a relatively low level a year ago, but down 3 percent when compared to December 1, 2001. All wheat stocks include durum, other spring and winter wheat. On-farm stocks are estimated at 165 million bushels, up 24 percent from last year but down 8 percent from two years ago. Off-farm stocks, at 65.0 million bushels, were up 9 percent from a year ago. The indicated September-November 2003 disappearance was 59.0 million bushels, down 16 percent from the same period in 2002.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions totaled 39.2 million bushels, down 20 percent from a year ago. This is the lowest level since durum wheat stock records were kept separately starting in 1974. On-farm stocks, at 31.0 million bushels, were down 23 percent from December 1, 2002 and lowest since records were kept separately. Off-farm stocks totaled 8.20 million bushels, down 7 percent from a year ago. The September-November total disappearance was 15.8 million bushels, up from 10.4 million bushels a year ago and the largest disappearance since 1995.

Barley stocks in all positions totaled 69.4 million bushels, up 63 percent from a year ago and the highest since 1998's December 1 stocks of 87.2 million bushels. On-farm stocks were 48.0 million bushels, up 66 percent from a year ago and highest since 63.0 million bushels in 1998. Off-farm stocks were 21.4 million bushels, up 57 percent from a year ago. Disappearance during the quarter totaled 18.4 million bushels, up 6 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Corn stocks in all positions totaled 105.5 million bushels, up 19 percent from last year and a record high due mostly to the record high production for 2003. Of the total stocks, 83.0 million bushels were stored on farms, up 28 percent from last year and a record high. Off-farm stocks, at 22.5 million bushels were down 4 percent. Disappearance during the quarter totaled 37.4 million bushels, 12 percent higher than a year earlier.

Soybean stocks in all positions totaled 40.0 million bushels, down 23 percent from last year's record high stocks. On-farm stocks totaled 19.0 million bushels on December 1, 2003, down from last year's record high 36.0 million bushels. Off-farm stocks totaled a record 21.0 million bushels, compared to last year's 16.1 million bushels.

Hay stocks totaled 4.69 million tons, up 9 percent compared to a year ago. Disappearance since May 1 totaled 848,000 tons, up 27 percent from the same period a year ago.

Capacity of On-farm grain storage totaled 710 million bushels, equal to December 1, 2002. Off-farm grain storage capacity was 235 million bushels, down from 241 million bushels a year ago.

United States

All wheat stored in all positions on December 1, 2003 totaled 1.52 billion bushels, up 15 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 492 million bushels, up 28 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 1.03 billion bushels, are up 10 percent from a year ago. The indicated September - November 2003 disappearance is 518 million bushels, up 20 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions on December 1, 2003 totaled 67.0 million bushels, down 13 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 41.4 million bushels, are down 19 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks totaled 25.6 million bushels, down 1 percent from a year ago. The indicated September - November 2003 disappearance of 20.3 million bushels is up 26 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Corn stocks in all positions on December 1, 2003 totaled 7.94 billion bushels, up 4 percent from December 1, 2002. Of the total stocks, 5.29 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 10 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.66 billion bushels, are down 6 percent from the previous year. The September - November 2003 indicated disappearance is 3.26 billion bushels, compared with 2.97 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2003 totaled 1.69 billion bushels, down 20 percent from December 1, 2002. On-farm stocks totaled 820 million bushels, down 30 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 866 million bushels, are down 8 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2003 totaled 910 million bushels, up 8 percent from the same period a year earlier.

For More Information Contact:

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GRAIN STOCKS, December 1, 2003

Crop	Date	NORTH DAKOTA			UNITED STATES		
		On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total all Positions	On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total all Positions
Wheat, All ^{2/}	Dec 1, 2002	133,000	59,500	192,500	384,800	935,069	1,319,869
	Sep 1, 2003	201,000	88,000	289,000	687,320	1,351,652	2,038,972
	Dec 1, 2003	165,000	65,000	230,000	491,925	1,029,159	1,521,084
Durum Wheat	Dec 1, 2002	40,000	8,800	48,800	50,800	25,917	76,717
	Sep 1, 2003	44,000	11,000	55,000	58,000	29,241	87,241
	Dec 1, 2003	31,000	8,200	39,200	41,400	25,569	66,969
Barley	Dec 1, 2002	29,000	13,600	42,600	83,400	86,601	170,001
	Sep 1, 2003	63,000	24,800	87,800	141,900	99,730	241,630
	Dec 1, 2003	48,000	21,400	69,400	97,200	100,684	197,884
Oats	Dec 1, 2002	9,800	850	10,650	52,500	51,284	103,784
	Sep 1, 2003	16,000	1,300	17,300	82,100	49,637	131,737
	Dec 1, 2003	13,000	1,200	14,200	64,300	54,918	119,218
Corn	Dec 1, 2002	65,000	23,500	88,500	4,800,000	2,837,971	7,637,971
	Sep 1, 2003	9,000	3,900	12,900	484,900	601,773	1,086,673
	Dec 1, 2003	83,000	22,500	105,500	5,286,000	2,658,779	7,944,779
Soybeans	Dec 1, 2002	36,000	16,100	52,100	1,170,000	943,373	2,113,373
	Sep 1, 2003	1,100	1,880	2,980	58,000	120,329	178,329
	Dec 1, 2003	19,000	21,000	40,000	820,000	866,381	1,686,381
Dry Edible Peas ^{3/}	Sep 1, 2003	---	---	---	---	---	639
	Dec 1, 2003	---	---	---	---	---	2,876
Lentils ^{3/}	Sep 1, 2003	---	---	---	---	---	116
	Dec 1, 2003	---	---	---	---	---	1,233
Chickpeas ^{3/}	Sep 1, 2003	---	---	---	---	---	380
	Dec 1, 2003	---	---	---	---	---	416
Hay (000 Tons)	Dec 1, 2002	4,300	---	4,300	103,692	---	103,692
	May 1, 2003	940	---	940	22,168	---	22,168
	Dec 1, 2003	4,690	---	4,690	110,752	---	110,752

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. 2/ Includes durum, other spring and winter 3/ Published at the U.S. level only.

